

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

In response to the Examiner's final Office Action of May 22, 2008 issued with respect to the present RCE application, the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the claims and the below Remarks.

### ***Regarding Amendment***

In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is amended to omit recitation of the "plural and random number of times" of the test function and to specify that the second chip encrypts the decrypted secret random number and a memory vector of the second chip to produce a first number and sends the memory vector and the first number to the first chip, the first chip's test function is called upon receipt of the memory vector and first number in which the first chip encrypts the secret random number and the received memory vector to produce a second number, compares the second and first numbers, in the event that the comparison returns a match, considering the second chip to be valid and authorizing use of the printer consumable, and in the event that the comparison returns a mismatch, considering the second chip to be invalid and denying use of the printer consumable. Support for these amendments can be found, for example, at page 41, line 25-page 43, line 18 and page 63, line 1-page 66, line 15 of the present specification; and

dependent claims 2, 4, 5, 7-14 and 16-20 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendment does not add any new matter to the present application, nor any new issues to the prosecution of the present application.

### ***Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections***

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2, 4, 5, 7-14 and 16-20 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by Carmon, Sony, Spies, Goto, Sibert and Schneier, because none of these cited references teach or suggest a validation protocol which not only authenticates presence of a consumable authentication chip but also authenticates consumable state data, like the claimed invention.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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